

Message Text

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15

ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02

USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /040 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:HJGILMORE:FEW
APPROVED BY EUR/EE - MR. ANDREWS
USIA/IEE - MR. COONROD (INFO)
EUR/SOV - MR. HUMPREY (INFO)

----- 009071

R 022253Z MAY 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB

UNCLAS STATE 103387

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, YO

SUBJECT:YUGOSLAV VETERANS' ORGANIZATION INVITES WORLD WAR
II AIR FORCE/OSS OFFICER TO 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

1. THE FEDERATION OF VETERANS' ASSOCIATIONS OF YUGOSLAVIA
HAS INVITED MELVIN O. BENSON, FORMER U.S.ARMY AND OSS OFFICER
WHO WAS FIRST AMERICAN TO JOIN TITO'S PARTISANS (AUGUST
1943), TO ATTEND MAY 8-9 CELEBRATION OF 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF
ALLIED VICTORY IN WORLD WAR II. THE FEDERATION WILL PAY
ALL OF HIS EXPENSES.

2. BENSON HAS BEEN TO YUGOSLAVIA TWICE IN RECENT YEARS,
MOST RECENTLY IN MAY 1970 WHEN HE WAS GUEST AT 25TH
ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF WORLD WAR II VICTORY.

3. BENSON SERVED AS CONSULTANT TO HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE FROM 1962 TO 1973.

4. BENSON PLANS TO ARRIVE IN BELGRADE FROM ROME AT 3:05 PM
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MAY 7 VIA JU-401. HE DOES NOT RPT NOT EXPECT TO BE MET OR

ESCORTED BY THE EMBASSY BUT WOULD APPRECIATE A BRIEFING ON
CURRENT YUGOSLAV POLITICAL SCENE. HE WILL TELEPHONE EMBASSY.

KISSINGER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS, INVITATIONS, VETERANS GROUPS, WORLD WAR II
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE103387
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: HJGILMORE:FEW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750155-0884
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750584/aaaaczrj.tel
Line Count: 65
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14 JUL 2003 by maginmm>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UGOSLAV VETERANS' ORGANIZATION INVITES WORLD WAR II AIR FORCE/OSS OFFICER TO 30TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
TAGS: PFOR, YO, (BENSON, MELVIN O)
To: BELGRADE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006